

Generation Next Sunday Service Teaching- 19th May, 2013 by David A. Adeyeye, Esq

Topic: **Why Pray: James 5:13-16**

Key Activities:

- Praise & Worship
- Prayer & Prayer Request
- Bible reading & lessons
- Memory Verse for the week: Jeremiai 29:13 *"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart"*

INTRO: Today we will learn that prayer is communicating or talking with God. We may not be able to call God on the telephone or send Him a letter, but prayer is just as real as e-mail or newspapers. Why should we pray? Because it makes our relationship with God stronger. Could you imagine trying to have a best friend without communicating with them? Prayer is seeking God and His direction for our lives. Praying also helps keep us out of trouble. Jesus told us to pray, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation." (Matthew 26:41)

Why pray? It's simple, to talk with God and to get His direction for our lives. God is so good and will help us when we are happy, sad, sick or even when we're in trouble. God will give us wisdom, strength and understanding if we only ask Him. In fact God is willing to give us many good things as long as we ask for them in accordance to His Will. God answers our prayers with signs, the Holy Spirit and His Word, the Bible. When we pray our relationship with God grows.

BIBLE Reading: James 5:13-16 . Let's find out what happened. The class read together.

Class Reflection:

1. What is prayer? (*Prayer is spiritual communication between ourselves and God.*)
2. Can you pray when you are in trouble? (*Yes.*)
3. Can you pray when you are happy? (*Yes.*)
4. What is another name for happy prayers? (*Praises.*)
5. What are some of the examples of why to pray mentioned in James 5:13-16? (*When you are in trouble, when you are happy, when you are sick, to show faith, for confession of sin, and to pray for others.*)
6. What else can we pray for? (*Some examples include: Guidance, Protection, Strength, Wisdom.*)
7. Is the prayer of a righteous man powerful? Is it effective? (*Yes the Bible tells us in James 5:16b that the prayers of the righteous are both powerful and effective.*)

Fun Activities: 1) TBD

To parents: This page lets you know what your child learned in GenerationNext today. In addition, you will find this week's memory verse, a suggested activity, and a short prayer to reinforce the lesson.

What we learned:



Today, we learned why we pray. It's simple, to talk with God and to get His direction for our lives. God is so good and will help us when we are happy, sad, sick or even when we're in trouble. God will give us wisdom, strength and understanding if we only ask Him. In fact God is willing to give us many good things as long as we ask for them in accordance to His will. (Scripture used: James 5:13-16)

Memory Verse:



**"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."
(Jeremiah 29:13 NIV)**

Practice this verse with your child during the week. This will not only help him or her remember the verse, but it will also help give your child a desire to commune with God on a regular basis.

Suggested Parent/Child Activity:



- 1) Ask your child if he or she could become close friends to someone if he or she never communicated with the other person.
- 2) Ask your child how much he or she would learn at school if he or she never opened the books or listened to the teacher.

Take time to explain the points above are also true with our relationship with God. We must take time to communicate with God through prayer. We can listen to God and learn many important truths by reading God's Word, the Bible.

Daily Prayer:



Heavenly Father, we thank You for hearing our voices and turning Your ear to us. We thank You for hearing our prayers and for acting on our behalf. We thank You and are grateful for all that You provide. May we have the wisdom to seek You each and every day. Amen.

